E/2005/37
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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

ANNUAL REPORT

(27 February 2004 - 25 February 2005)

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
OFFICIAL RECORDS, 2005

SUPPLEMENT No. 17

UNITED NATIONS

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NOTE

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Annual Report covering the period from 27 February 2004 to 25 February 2005

INTRODUCTION

1. The present Annual Report was adopted unanimously by the Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) at the seventh meeting of its sixtieth session on 25 February 2005.

CHAPTER I

ISSUES CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

2. None.

CHAPTER II

WORK OF THE COMMISSION SINCE ITS FIFTY-NINTH SESSION

A. Activities of subsidiary bodies

3. A list of meetings held since the fifty-ninth session is contained in Annex I, showing in each case the dates, the officers and the symbols of the report. These reports record the agreements reached and decisions taken.

B. Other activities

4. The secretariat serviced the regular session of the Commission, Ad Hoc Informal Meetings of the Commission, meetings of its subsidiary bodies, and other meetings held under its auspices. Periodic reviews, including the Economic Survey of Europe, specialized statistical bulletins and other publications were issued (see Annex II). The secretariat maintained close and regular liaison with United Nations Headquarters and cooperated with the Departments concerned, as well as with the secretariats of the other regional commissions on projects of common interest.

C. Relations with other United Nations Programmes

5. The cooperation of the Commission and its secretariat in 2004/2005 with various United Nations bodies and other international organizations, as well as with their secretariats, has continued as called for in the Plan of Action.

CHAPTER III

SIXTIETH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

A. Attendance and organization of work

6. The sixtieth session of the Commission was held from 22 to 25 February 2005. The Commission heard statements by the Chairman and the Executive Secretary as called for in the agenda.

7. The sixtieth session was attended by representatives from Albania, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, and Uzbekistan.

8. The session was attended by representatives of the European Community.

9. Representatives of the Holy See participated under article 8 of the Commission's terms of reference.

10. Representatives of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN/DESA), United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UN-HABITAT), Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and the following specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations were in attendance: International Labour Organization (ILO), World Bank, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), Black Sea Trade and Development Bank (BSTDB), International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe.

11. The following non-governmental organizations were represented: Association of Industrials and Entrepreneurs of Serbia and Montenegro, Centro de Estudios Europeos de Cuba, International Alliance of Women, International Council of Women (ICW), International Federation of Business and Professional Women (IFBPW), International Federation of University Women (IFUW).

12. A complete list of participants can be found in document E/ECE(60)/INF.1/Rev.1.

B. Agenda

13. The Commission adopted its agenda (E/ECE/1419 and Corr.1) as orally revised.

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Economic developments in the UNECE region: Presentation of the main conclusions of the first issue of the Economic Survey of Europe, 2005
3. Financing for development: Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development in the UNECE region
4. Sustainable development in the UNECE region
5. UNECE's cooperation with the OSCE
6. The UNECE Reform:

   Part A: Comprehensive report on the state of the UNECE

   Part B: Towards an E-strategy for the UNECE
7. Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007 and matters relating to the programme of work planning and evaluation processes
8. Achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, as well as implementing the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits
9. Major policy issues of the UNECE and their impact on the UNECE programme of work
10. The work of the UNECE – achievements and constraints
11. Technical cooperation activities of the UNECE
12. Reports of the Bureau and of the Group of Experts on the Programme of Work (GEPW)
13. Election of Officers
14. Other business
15. Adoption of the Report

C. Election of Officers

14. The Chairman of the sixtieth session of the Commission was Mr. Wolfgang Petritsch (Austria) and the Vice-Chairpersons Mr. Vladimir Thanati (Albania), Mr. Sergei Aleinik (Belarus) and Mr. Algimantas Rimkunas (Lithuania).

15. The Rapporteur of the session was Mr. Bob Fairweather (United Kingdom).

16. At its seventh meeting the Commission elected Mr. François Roux (Belgium) Chairman of the sixty-first session. Mr. Vladimir Thanati (Albania) was re elected Vice Chairperson of the sixty-first session. Mr. Alexander Slabý (Czech Republic) and Mr. Dumitru Croitor (Republic of Moldova) were elected Vice-Chairpersons of the sixty-first session.

D. Account of proceedings

Economic developments in the UNECE region: Presentation of the main conclusions of the first issue of the Economic Survey of Europe, 2005
(Agenda item 2)

17. For consideration of this item the Commission had before it the Economic Survey of Europe, 2005, No.1.

18. The findings of the Economic Survey were presented to the Commission. The short-term outlook for Europe and the CIS is for economic growth to continue in 2005, albeit at significantly different rates in the major sub-regions. The euro area will continue to have a slower growth rate than the other major regions of the world economy. Within Europe, central and eastern Europe will continue to perform significantly better than the euro area. Economic growth will weaken somewhat in the CIS, but average rates will remain well above the European average. Despite these overall relatively favourable short-term growth prospects for Europe and the CIS, there are a number of important issues that need to be addressed by economic policy to ensure that the basic conditions are in place for sustained and robust growth in the medium- and longer term.

Decision 1

The Commission took note of the secretariat's presentation of the main conclusions of the first issue of the Economic Survey of Europe, 2005 and welcomed the quality of the Survey. A number of suggestions for further improving the quality and usefulness of the Survey were made, in particular the presentation of more readily useable cross-country and cross-region comparisons, a strengthening of consultations and interactions with others involved in economic analysis related to the UNECE region, and continued efforts to provide sound foundations for the analyses made and policy options presented. The Commission also asked the secretariat to implement the decision in document E/ECE/1430/Add.1 on the frequency and scope of future issues of the Economic Survey of Europe.

Financing for development: Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development in the UNECE region
(Agenda item 3)

19. The discussion of this item was organized around two Round Tables as follows:

20. Round Table 1: «Exchange of experiences with domestic policies that have successfully increased financial resources for development in the UNECE region». Ambassador Pierre-Louis Girard, Permanent Representative of Switzerland to WTO and EFTA, acted as moderator. The following senior officials participated as panellists: Ambassador Zohrab Mnatsakanian, Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations Office at Geneva; Ms. Karolina Bocková, Deputy CEO, CzechInvest – Investment and Business Support Agency of the Czech Republic; Mr. Batyrchan Issayev, Deputy Minister of Economy, Kazakhstan; Mr. Gregorz Wasiliewski, Head of Division, Ministry of Finance, Poland; Ambassador Kálmán Petöcz, Permanent Representative of Slovakia to the United Nations Office at Geneva.

21. Participants highlighted that liberalizing domestic prices and markets as well as foreign trade is important to avoid distortions in the allocation of financial resources. Investments in human capital are equally important to create a basis for economic diversification and to foster the evolution towards knowledge-based economies. It was also noted that FDI is a particularly beneficial source of financing. Given the increasing competition for FDI, it is important to develop an attractive package to match the needs of investors. Domestic policies are also key for fostering inter-linkages between foreign companies and domestic firms. Resource-rich economies can use commodity stabilization funds to support economic diversification. Recently, some post-transition economy countries have emerged as donors of official development assistance. These countries mentioned that their aid is prioritized toward reaching the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and is targeted at countries with economies in transition (in Southeast Europe and Central Asia) and developing countries.

22. Round Table 2: «The role of regional cooperation in financing for development in the UNECE region». Ambassador Wolfgang Petritsch, Chairperson, UNECE, acted as moderator. The following senior officials participated as panellists: Ambassador Harald Kreid, Executive Secretary, Central European Initiative; Mr. Samuel Fankhauser, Director for Policy Studies and Sector Strategy, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development; Mr. José Capel-Ferrer, Director, Transport Division, UNECE; Mr. Antonio Fanelli, Investment Compact for South-East Europe, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development; Mr. Erhard Busek, Special Coordinator of the Stability Pact; Mr. Frank Kaps, Chief, World Bank Liaison Office to the European Commission.

23. Regional cooperation initiatives can play an important role in improving the business climate and hence is making the countries concerned an attractive spot for investment. Cooperation at regional level can take different, complementary forms: free trade agreements, harmonization of legislations and standards, coordination of customs procedures, realization of regional infrastructures, creation of common financial institutions and markets, sharing of knowledge and experiences. Hence, regional cooperation appears to be an important strategy that countries in the UNECE region can use to mobilize resources for development. Regional institutions (including regional economic agreements, development banks and sub-regional groupings) can be an important catalyst of the integration process. However, for the regional cooperation to be successful, participating countries must credibly and unambiguously commit to it. Furthermore, whilst the contribution of regional initiatives to economic development can be significant, individual countries will remain the owner of the development and reform agenda. In this sense, regional initiatives do not substitute for, but rather complement and support, coherent national development strategies. The Commission welcomed the joint statement by member countries of the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA).

Decision 2

The Commission recognized the need for follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development in the UNECE region and the need to pursue implementation of the commitments made at the Conference.

Sustainable development in the UNECE region
(Agenda item 4)

24. The Commission examined major policy options for water, sanitation and human settlements in the UNECE region taking into account the outcome of the Regional Implementation Meeting in January 2004, the conclusions of the twelfth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development in April 2004 and the challenges identified by the Parties to the UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes and by the Committee on Human Settlements.

25. The Commission stressed that despite the progress achieved, there was a need for action-oriented local and national measures as well as regional cooperation to speed up efforts to meet the internationally agreed development goals and Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPoI) commitments, particularly in countries in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA) and some South-East European (SEE) countries, which include five among the fifty poorest countries in the world.

26. Some practical suggestions were made for the organization of a second UNECE Forum in preparation of CSD 14, in particular the possibility of holding a Round Table rather than a Panel Discussion, the strengthening of the debate on cross-cutting issues, the involvement of relevant UNECE subsidiary bodies (notably the Committee on Environmental Policy, the Committee on Sustainable Energy and the Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution). Lessons learned from the experience of the other regional commissions could also be taken into account.

Decision 3

The Commission agreed to the proposal that a Chairperson's summary be presented as UNECE's contribution to the Intergovernmental Preparatory Meeting for the Commission on Sustainable Development to be held in New York from 28 February to 4 March 2005. It further agreed that the summary would be based on the background document E/ECE/1421 «Sustainable Development in the UNECE Region» and on the discussion at the Annual Session.

Decision 4

The Commission decided to organize the second UNECE Regional Implementation Forum in preparation of CSD 14. It also agreed to seek the necessary complementary extrabudgetary funds for the regional preparations for CSD 14.

UNECE cooperation with the OSCE
(Agenda item 5)

27. The Commission considered this agenda item on the basis of Conference Room Paper 2, «UNECE's cooperation with OSCE in the economic and environmental dimensions of security».

28. The Executive Secretary emphasized the successful conclusion of negotiations between the UNECE and OSCE as reflected in the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

between the two organizations in December 2004. The Executive Secretary briefed the Commission on the work underway in preparation for review of the OSCE commitments under the cluster of integration, trade and transport which will be taken up at the OSCE Economic Forum in May 2005. Information was also provided about the UNECE's assistance to the OSCE concerning an early warning mechanism. Member States noted that the implementation of the MOU was reported to have generated extra work within UNECE.

Decision 5

The Commission welcomed the signature of the MOU in the hope that this would enhance the effectiveness of the two organizations, the spirit of cooperation and transparency between the two organizations as well as with the member States. It was also emphasized that the support to the OSCE should not be to the detriment of other UNECE activities, and that the additional workload be mitigated by the measures identified in document E/ECE/1430/Add.1.

The UNECE reform
(Agenda item 6)

Part A: Comprehensive report on the state of the UNECE

29. The team of external evaluators selected to undertake a comprehensive report on the state of the UNECE was introduced to the Commission. The team, consisting of Mr. Pekka Haavisto (former Minister for Environment and Development of Finland), Mr. Karl Paschke (former United Nations Under-Secretary-General for internal oversight), Ms. Johanna Bernstein (international lawyer with expertise in international environmental law) and Mr. Tapio Wallennius (expert on public sector administration) informed the Commission of the scope of the evaluation and the methodology to be used. The comprehensive report will provide an analysis of the role, mandate and functions of the UNECE in the light of the changed European institutional landscape and produce recommendations to determine any possible and necessary changes. The methodology consists of an initial desk study phase, followed by consultations with member States during the Annual Session, visits to capitals in selected UNECE member countries, and collection of views through a questionnaire to UNECE governments, international organizations and other stakeholders. The team expects to deliver a first draft of the report by mid-June and the final report by the end of June 2005.

30. Member States stressed that the comprehensive review was not a budget cutting exercise but a timely opportunity to refocus and ensure the best use of available resources and expertise of UNECE, taking into account the work of other organizations also active in the region, and the value added that the UNECE could provide. Member States requested the secretariat to make any necessary modifications to the 2006-2007 programme of work to take into account the outcome of the comprehensive review.

Decision 6

The Commission welcomed the start of the work of the evaluation team, noted with satisfaction the methodology and schedule of work outlined by the team, and looked forward to receiving the report's recommendations.

Part B: Towards an E-strategy for the UNECE

31. For the consideration of this item the Commission had before it document E/ECE/1422 «Towards an E-Strategy for the UNECE», which was introduced by the Executive Secretary. The note by the secretariat was welcomed by delegations that acknowledged the usefulness of the information and communications technologies (ICT) linking ICT know-how with activities of the sub-programmes and as a means of increasing the efficiency of UNECE activities, enhancing the secretariat capacity to serve and communicate with member States, other partners and the general public.

32. During the discussion delegations noted that UNECE activities at the sectoral level should be demand driven with the Principal Subsidiary Bodies (PSBs) responding to the needs of member States. In this respect, ICT should not be considered as a goal in itself but rather each PSB should determine which ICT applications were most suitable for their activities. As a communications tool, some delegations pointed out that additional efforts should be made to have the timely posting of documents on the UNECE website in the three working languages (English, French and Russian). They noted that for some countries improving the multilingual character of the UNECE website would greatly facilitate the dissemination of parliamentary documentation.

Decision 7

The Commission welcomed the report of the Executive Secretary and agreed that the UNECE should promote the use of ICT in the UNECE work programme with the aim of increasing its efficiency and efficacy on a demand-driven basis. The Commission furthermore stressed that ICT was a tool to implement the programme and not a goal in itself. In this connection the Commission encouraged PSBs to further strengthen their efforts to develop and use appropriate e-applications in a cost-efficient manner and agreed to evaluate progress that had been made at the sixty-first Annual Session. The secretariat was urged to put all materials available in the three languages of the Commission on its website.

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007 and matters relating to the programme of work planning and evaluation processes
(Agenda item 7)

33. Under this item the Executive Secretary briefed the Commission on the state of the UNECE's programme budget submission for the 2006-2007 biennium and on actions taken to implement the recommendations of the Group of Experts on the Programme of Work (GEPW) on the programme budget narratives. She further informed the Commission that the final version of the programme budget proposal still awaits the final decision of the Secretary-General following a detailed review of budget submissions from all UN Departments. The Commission reiterated the importance of the full implementation of the recommendations on the Programme Budget Narratives for 2006-2007, and welcomed the Executive Secretary's briefing.

34. The Commission further considered this item on the basis of documents E/ECE/1423 «Programme of work planning and evaluation processes» and E/ECE/1423/Add.1 «Recommendations of the Group of Experts on the Programme of Work on the programme

planning processes». Member States requested the Executive Secretary to provide clear and complete figures on the allocation of all resources to all UNECE activities.

35. The Commission underlined the need to ensure that the outcome of the forthcoming UNECE comprehensive review be taken into account in the programme of work for 2006-2007.

Decision 8

The Commission adopted the recommendations of the Group of Experts on the Programme of Work concerning new programme planning processes. It also stressed the need for the secretariat to expedite the preparation of the guide on the evaluation methods as outlined in document E/ECE/1423.

Achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, as well as implementing the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits
(Agenda item 8)

36. In September 2005, the General Assembly will meet at the level of Heads of States for a review of the goals contained in the Millennium Declaration. As part of the preparatory process for this Summit, the theme of the high-level segment of the substantive session of ECOSOC in June 2005 will be: «Achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, as well as implementing the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits». Like the other regional commissions, the UNECE is providing a regional contribution to this process.

37. Within this framework, document E/ECE/1424 highlights the relevance for the region of the goals contained in the Millennium Declaration and other development goals agreed upon at UN global Conferences and Summits. Further, it reviews the involvement of the UNECE in the follow-up to United Nations global conferences whose themes are directly related to its mandated areas of activity. Member States underlined the importance of the internationally agreed development goals in the UNECE region and support was expressed for the activities of the UNECE that contribute to the achievement of these goals at the sub-regional and regional levels.

38. With regard to UNECE's follow-up to UN Global Conferences and Summits, the Commission noted the follow-up to the UNECE Regional Implementation Strategy on Ageing being carried out in collaboration with the Government of Austria and the Vienna-based European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research. It welcomed the Government of Turkey's intention to host a sub-regional forum on women's entrepreneurship in Turkey in cooperation with the UNECE.

Decision 9

The Commission noted with interest the Executive Secretary's background document E/ECE/1424. It noted the success of the UNECE Beijing +10 review held on 14-15 December 2004. Recalling that the meeting identified mainstreaming gender into economic policies as a key area requiring further efforts by member States, the Commission expressed its view that the

UNECE should continue to mainstream gender into its work, as well as continuing to serve as a platform for the exchange of good practices. It further noted that gender equality is a common denominator for many of the internationally agreed development goals. With regard to the regional dimension of the internationally agreed development goals, the Commission noted with appreciation that the UNECE is involved in regional activities having an impact on the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals. The Commission also noted the linkages discussed in section III of the background document between the UNECE activities and a number of major internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration.

Major policy issues of the UNECE and their impact on the UNECE programme of work
(Agenda item 9)

39. For consideration of this item the Commission had before it document E/ECE/1425 «Major policy issues of the UNECE and their impact on the UNECE programme of work». The document was introduced by the Executive Secretary who explained that it was a further development of a note (E/ECE/1400) analysing recent trends at the global and regional level presented to the fifty-eighth session of the Commission. She mentioned that challenges such as globalization, security, and the heterogeneity in the transition process risked creating new dividing lines in the region. UNECE's response to these challenges included a number of activities aiming at strengthening European integration and in particular assisting the less advantaged economies in transition.

40. The Commission welcomed the Executive Secretary's presentation and underlined that in view of these developments, the Commission should respond to the global and regional challenges within its mandated areas of work. Further, the opportunities but also the threats related to globalization were identified as underlying trends that would strongly influence the work of the Commission. In addition to the issues highlighted in the paper, support was expressed for the work aiming at integrating the economies in transition into the European and global economy.

Decision 10

The Commission noted with appreciation the analysis of the Executive Secretary in respect of UNECE challenges at the global and regional level. While noting the description of the UNECE's responses to those challenges, particularly those supporting the less advantaged economies, it highlighted the need to address aspects of issues such as globalization, transition and environmental policies within the scope of UNECE's mandate. Furthermore, the Commission reconfirmed that the setting of priorities of the Commission rests with the member States and that the overall objective within the UNECE remains the promotion of stability and prosperity across the UNECE region.

The work of the UNECE – achievements, constraints and perspectives
(Agenda item 10)

41. The Commission considered this agenda item on the basis of document E/ECE/1426 «The work of the UNECE: achievements, constraints and perspectives».

42. In introducing the item the Executive Secretary emphasized that the UNECE exists, and continues to exist, because its work is valuable and contributes to the formulation and implementation of the UN values, policies and tasks in the region. It continues to be an instrument of economic integration that works to meet the needs of its members and helps to forge bridges and reduce gaps among them. She also highlighted the constraints faced by the secretariat in implementing the programme of work in the light of increasing demands, particularly from countries with economies in transition, for new activities in the light of a zero-growth budget.

43. The Chairpersons of PSBs presented their major achievements and future programme of activities, underlying the difficulty of carrying out their tasks with the budgetary constraints facing the secretariat.

44. The debate following the introduction of the item showed the high value attached to the work of the PSBs. The Commission discussed various problems, including issues with possible relevance to trade facilitation in the region, coming from the work of all relevant PSBs and their subsidiary bodies.

Decision 11

(a) The Commission welcomed the report of the Executive Secretary on the work of the UNECE, noting that the achievements outlined therein had contributed to promoting economic cooperation, facilitating policy dialogue, and preventing and reducing gaps and barriers in the UNECE region and to further promoting sustainable development in the UNECE region.

(b) The Commission stressed the importance for the UNECE to continue to produce tangible and concrete results in keeping with the challenges and priorities of its member States.

(c) The Commission noted the description of the constraints faced in implementing the programme of work, and expressed its appreciation for the efforts to cope with these constraints. In responding to resource constraints, the Commission asked the Executive Secretary to work with member States to ensure that the resources distribution reflects the priorities set by the Commission.

(d) Having considered the proposal contained in paragraphs 21 and 22 of E/ECE/1426, the Commission agreed to encourage participation of non-UNECE countries which are Contracting Parties to legal instruments administered by WP.1 and the other subsidiary bodies of the Inland Transport Committee but was unable to reach consensus on granting voting rights to such countries at this point. It recognized the need for further discussion.

(e) The Commission also thanked the Chairpersons of the UNECE's Principal Subsidiary Bodies for their work and presentations. It urged the secretariat, PSBs and all member States to continue to improve both horizontal and vertical communications.

Technical cooperation activities of the UNECE
(Agenda item 11)

45. The Commission considered this agenda item on the basis of document E/ECE/1427 «UNECE technical cooperation activities in 2004: an overview» and E/ECE/1427/Add.1 «UNECE/UNESCAP strategy for Central Asia and the future orientation of the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia».

46. Representatives from CIS countries emphasized the need for UNECE technical cooperation activities to assist transition economies of the UNECE region, meeting their needs in the most effective way within the agreed areas of the programme of work.

47. Appreciation was expressed of the positive changes in implementing technical cooperation activities but the need to allocate additional resources to activities for low income member States was emphasized.

48. The Commission expressed its support to the Government of Kazakhstan to organize, in cooperation with UNECE and UNESCAP, an International Conference on Sub-regional Economic Cooperation in Central Asia and the Future Role of SPECA (Astana, 25-27 May 2005) and called upon all relevant international and regional organizations to actively participate in this important event and its follow-up activities.

Decision 12

(a) The Commission reiterated the importance of the UNECE technical cooperation activities, which should be demand-driven and results oriented. It welcomed action taken by the secretariat to implement the Technical Cooperation Strategy endorsed at its 2004 Annual Session. The Commission stressed the need to increase assistance to low-income countries in a targeted and systematic manner. The Commission welcomed the efforts of the UNECE secretariat carried out in close partnership with UNESCAP to strengthen its support to economic cooperation and development in Central Asia, in particular work aimed at strengthening the UN Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA).

(b) The Commission also encouraged the development of joint technical cooperation projects in cooperation with other organizations. It emphasized the importance of the work of the Regional Advisers in supporting technical cooperation activities in the fields of environment, transport, statistics, energy, trade, entrepreneurship and SMEs, and development policy.

(c) The Commission recognized UNECE's potential in delivering technical assistance in those areas where it has expertise and comparative advantages, and encouraged OECD and other donor organizations to better utilize this potential in their development aid efforts.

Reports of the Bureau and of the Group of Experts on the Programme of Work
(Agenda item 12)

49. Documents E/ECE/1428 «Report of the Bureau» and E/ECE/1429 «Report of the Group of Experts on the Programme of Work» provided background information for the Commission's consideration under this item.

50. Appreciation was expressed for the work done by the Bureau and the Group of Experts on the Programme of Work (GEPW) which perform an essential role in the governance of UNECE. The Chairman of the GEPW outlined the Group's future work in the coming months, which included continuing its dialogue relating to the UNECE reform, both among member States and with the secretariat, as well as ensuring the implementation of decisions and recommendations adopted by the Commission. In this respect he expressed the need that decisions of the Commission are made available as UNECE official documents.

Decision 13

The Commission noted with appreciation the reports of both the Bureau and the Group of Experts which provide insight into the work of both bodies.

Other business
(Agenda item 14)

51. None.

Adoption of the Report

52. The report was adopted.

ANNEX I

LIST OF MEETINGS OF THE COMMISSION, ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES AND CONVENTIONS ADMINISTERED BY THE UNECE SECRETARIAT BETWEEN 24 FEBRUARY 2004 AND 25 FEBRUARY 2005

Body and officers		Session	Symbol of report
A. THE COMMISSION			
Economic Commission for Europe		59th session 24-26 February 2004	E/2004/37 E/ECE/1416
Chairperson:	Mr. C. Kull (Estonia)		
Vice-Chairpersons:	Mr. V. Thanati (Albania) Mr. S. Aleinik (Belarus) Mr. M. Adam (Belgium)		
Chairperson:	Mr. W. Petritsch (Austria)	60th session	E/2005/37
Vice-Chairpersons:	Mr. V. Thanati (Albania) Mr. S. Aleinik (Belarus) Mr. A. Rimkunas (Lithuania)	22-25 February 2005	E/ECE/1431
Ad Hoc Informal Meeting of the Commission		28 May 2004	E/ECE/1417
Chairperson:	Mr. W. Petritsch (Austria)	2 July 2004	–
		1 October 2004	E/ECE/1418
		7 December 2004	E/ECE/1430 and Add.1
B. MEETINGS HELD UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE COMMISSION			
Steering Committee for Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP)		2nd session 29-30 March 2004	ECE/AC.21/2004/14 EUR/03/5045236/14
Chairman:	Mr. J. Volf (Czech Republic)		
Regional Preparatory Meeting for the 10-year Review of Implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action		14-15 December 2004	ECE/AC.28/2004/3
Chairman:	Ms. Florence Ievers (Canada)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Ms. F. Acar (Turkey) Mr. K. van Kesteren (Netherlands) Ms. M. Omarova (Azerbaijan) Ms. Patricia Schultz (Switzerland)		

Body and officers		Session	Symbol of report

C. PRINCIPAL SUBSIDIARY BODIES

ENVIRONMENT

Committee on Environmental Policy		11th session 13-15 October 2004	ECE/CEP/124
Chairman:	Mr. Z. Lomtadze (Georgia)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Ms. N. Panariti (Albania) Ms. H. Cizková (Czech Republic) Mr. B.-A. Szelinski (Germany) Mr. S. Tveretinov (Russian Federation) Mr. J. Kahn (Sweden) Mr. J. Schneider (Switzerland) Ms. L. Poulton (United States)		
Ad Hoc Expert Group on Environmental Performance Reviews		12th meeting 13-15 October 2004	–
Chairman:	Mr. K. Jenderedjian (Armenia)		
Regional Meeting on Education for Sustainable Development		Second meeting 15-16 June 2004 Rome (Italy)	CEP/AC.13/2004/7
Chairman:	Mr. J. Kahn (Sweden)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. N. Kasimov (Russian Federation)		

TRANSPORT

Inland Transport Committee		67th session 15-17 February 2005	ECE/TRANS/162
Chairman:	Mr. P. Päffgen (Germany)		
Group of Experts on Monitoring of Radioactively Contaminated Scrap Metal		1st session 5-7 April 2004	TRANS/AC.10/2004/4
Chairman:	Mr. R. Turner (United States)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. M. Isakov (Russian Federation)		
Working Party on Road Traffic Safety		44th session 6-8 April 2004	TRANS/WP.1/94
Chairman:	Mr. B. Périsset (Switzerland)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr. D. Link (Israel) Mr. Y. Yakimov (Russian Federation)	45th session 27-30 September 2004	TRANS/WP.1/96
Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics		17th session 20-21 September 2004	TRANS/WP.5/36
Chairman:	Mr. V. Arsenov (Russian Federation)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. W. Zarnoch (Poland)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Working Party on Transport Statistics **Chairman:** Mr. E. Grib (Denmark)	55th session 9-11 June 2004	TRANS/WP.6/147
Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs **Chairman:** Mr. M. Eilsoe (Denmark) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. B. Schrempf (Germany)	60th session 2-5 November 2004	TRANS/WP.11/210
Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods **Chairman:** Mr. J. Franco (Portugal) **Vice-Chairman:** Mrs. A. Roumier (France)	76th session 3-7 May 2004	TRANS/WP.15/179
	77th session 25-28 October 2004	TRANS/WP.15/181
Joint Meeting of the RID Safety Committee and the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods **Chairman:** Mr. C. Pfauvadel (France) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. H. Rein (Germany)	13-17 September 2004	TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/96
Joint Meeting of Experts on the Regulations annexed to the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN) **Chairman:** Mr. H. Rein (Germany)	9th session 24-26 January 2005	TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/19
Working Party on Intermodal Transport and Logistics **Chairman:** Mr. M. Viardot (France)	41st session 25 March 2004 Paris (France)	TRANS/WP.24/103
	42nd session 29 September 2004 Kiev (Ukraine)	TRANS/WP.24/105
World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29) **Chairman:** Mr. V. Koutenev (Russian Federation) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. B. Gauvin (France)	132nd session 9-12 March 2004	TRANS/WP.29/992
	133rd session 22-25 June 2004	TRANS/WP.29/1016
	134th session 16-19 November 2004	TRANS/WP.29/1037
Working Party on Noise **Chairman:** Mr. D. Meyer (Germany)	40th session 23-24 September 2004	TRANS/WP.29/GRB/38

Body and officers		Session	Symbol of report
		41st session 22-24 February 2004	TRANS/WP.29/ GRB/39
Working Party on Lighting and Light-signalling		52nd session 30 March-2 April 2004	TRANS/WP.29/ GRE/52
Chairman:	Mr. H. Gorzkowski (Canada)		
		53rd session 4-8 October 2004	TRANS/WP.29/ GRE/53
Working Party on Pollution and Energy		48th session 1-4 June 2004	TRANS/WP.29/ GRPE/48
Chairman:	Mr. B. Gauvin (France)		
		49th session 10-14 January 2005	TRANS/WP.29/ GRPE/49
Working Party on Brakes and Running Gear		56th session 20-22 September 2004	TRANS/WP.29/ GRRF/56
Chairman:	Mr. I. Yarnold (United Kingdom)		
		57th session 31 January- 4 February 2005	TRANS/WP.29/ GRRF/57
Working Party on General Safety Provisions		86th session 19-23 April 2004	TRANS/WP.29/ GRSG/65
Chairman:	Mr. A. Erario (Italy)		
		87th session 12-15 October 2004	TRANS/WP.29/ GRSG/66
Working Party on Passive Safety		35th session 3-7 May 2004	TRANS/WP.29/ GRSP/35
Chairman:	Ms. J. Abraham (United States)		
		36th session 7-10 December 2004	TRANS/WP.29/ GRSP/36
Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport		107th session 15-18 June 2004	TRANS/WP.30/214
Chairman:	Mr. G. Jacobs (Netherlands)	108th session 11-15 October 2004	TRANS/WP.30/216
		109th session 31 January- 4 February 2005	TRANS/WP.30/218
Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention 1975		37th session 14-15 October 2004	TRANS/WP.30/ AC.2/75
Chairman:	Mrs. M. Ögren (Sweden)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. R. Smidl (Czech Republic)		
Chairman:	Mrs. M. Ögren (Sweden)	38th session 3-4 February 2005	TRANS/WP.30/ AC.2/77
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. S. Bagirov (Azerbaijan)		

Body and officers		Session	Symbol of report
Working Party on Road Transport		98th session 27-29 October 2004	TRANS/SC.1/375
Chairman:	Mr. J. Alaluusua (Finland)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. X. Guérin (France)		
Working Party on Rail Transport		58th session 27-29 October 2004	TRANS/SC.2/202
Chairman:	Mr. F. Croccolo (Italy)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. M. Radl (Austria)		
Working Party on Inland Water Transport		48th session 19-21 October 2004	TRANS/SC.3/163
Chairman:	Mr. I. Valkar (Hungary)		
Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation		27th session 17-19 March 2004	TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/55
Chairman:	Mr. V. Vorontsov (Russian Federation)	28th session 8-10 June 2004	TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/56

STATISTICS

Conference of European Statisticians		52nd plenary session 8-10 June 2004 Paris (France)	ECE/CES/66
Chairman:	Ms. K. Wallman (United States)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Ms. M. Ekonomi (Albania) Mr. D. Trewin (Australia) Mr. L. Biggeri (Italy) Mr. V. Sokolin (Russian Federation) Ms. I. Krizman (Slovenia) Mr. S. Öberg (Sweden)		
Joint OECD-IEA/Eurostat/UNECE Energy Statistics Working Group		16-17 November 2004 Paris (France)	CES/AC.32/2004/1
Chairman:	Mr. J.-Y. Garnier (OECD/IEA)		
UNSD/UNECE Regional Meeting on Revision of Economic Classifications		29 September- 1 October 2004	CES/AC.59/2004/2
Chairman:	Mr. N. Rainer (Austria)		
Joint UNECE/Eurostat/FAO/OECD Third World Conference on Agricultural Statistics		2-4 November 2004 Cancún (Mexico)	CES/AC.61/2004/1
Chairman:	Mr. J.M. Galarza (Mexico)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Joint UNECE/Eurostat/OECD Meeting on National Accounts	28-30 April 2004	CES/AC.68/2004/2
Chairman: Mr. P. Stauffer (Switzerland) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mr. R. Lynch (United Kingdom) Mr. M. Girard (Canada) Mr. B. Newson (Eurostat) Mr. O. Berner (Denmark) Mr. P. Van de Ven (Netherlands)		
Joint UNECE/OECD Meeting on National Accounts	12-15 October 2004 (OECD, Paris, France)	CES/AC.68/2004/21
Chairman: Mr. F. Lequiller (OECD) **Vice-Chairman:** Ms. I. Tvarijonaviciute (Lithuania)		
Joint ECE/Eurostat/OECD Meeting on the Management of Statistical Information Systems	17-19 May 2004	CES/AC.71/2004/2
Chairman: Mr. M. Turner (Canada)		
TRADE, INDUSTRY AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT		
Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development	8th session 10 & 14 May 2004	ECE/TRADE/340
Chairman: Mr. A. Safarík-Pstrosz (Czech Republic) **Vice-Chairmen:** Ms. A. Öktem (Turkey) Mr. R. van Kuik (Netherlands) Mr. T. Toichubaev (Kyrgyzstan)		
Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT)	10th session 17 & 19 May 2004	TRADE/CEFACT/ 2004/38
Chairman: Mr. C. Frühwald (Germany) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mr. K. Itoh (Japan) Mr. S. Mila (IAPH) Mr. J. J. Olumekun (Nigeria) Ms. T. Sorrenti (United States) Mr. R. Walker (United Kingdom)		
Working Party on Technical Harmonization and Standardization Policies	14th session 22-24 November 2004	TRADE/WP.6/2004/15
Chairman: Mr. C. Arvius (Sweden) **Vice-Chairmen:** Mr. D. Podhorsky (Slovakia) Mr. V. Koreshkov (Belarus)		
Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards	60th session 8-10 November 2004	TRADE/WP.7/2004/10
Chairman: Mr. D.L. Priester (United States) **Vice-Chairmen:** Ms. V. Baricicova (Slovakia) Ms. O. Vorovenci (Romania)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Meeting of Specialized Section on Standardization of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables	50th session 10-14 May 2004	TRADE/WP.7/GE.1/ 2004/25
Chairman: Mr. D. Holliday (United Kingdom) **Vice-Chairman:** Ms. U. Bickelmann (Germany)		
Meeting of Specialized Section on Standardization of Dry and Dried Produce (Fruit)	51st session 15-18 June 2004	TRADE/WP.7/GE.2/ 2004/14
Chairman: Mr. B. Cauquil (France) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. M. Sciannella (Italy)		
Meeting of Specialized Section on Standardization of Seed Potatoes	34th session 22-24 March 2004	TRADE/WP.7/GE.6/ 2004/16
Chairman: Mr. P.G. Bianchi (Italy) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. P.A. Miauton (Switzerland)		
Meeting of Specialized Section on Standardization of Meat	13th session 19-22 April 2004	TRADE/WP.7/GE.11/ 2004/10
Chairman: Mr. B. Carpenter (United States) **Vice-Chairman:** Mr. I. King (Australia)		
Working Party on Industry and Enterprise Development	6th session 10-11 February 2005	TRADE/WP.8/2005/17
Chairman: Mr. M. Cardullo (United States) **Vice-Chairmen:** Ms. J. Habuda (Hungary) Ms. D. Karaić (Croatia) Ms. T. Skameikina (Russian Federation)		
Seminar on Fostering Internet Enterprise Development by Governments and by Large Companies through Subcontracting	5 October 2004 Brussels (Belgium)	TRADE/WP.8/SEM.26/ 2004/3
Chairmen: Mr. J. Borras (United Kingdom) Mr. I. Enényi (Hungary)		
Forum «Public-Private Cooperation in Industrial Restructuring»	2-3 November 2004 Almaty (Kazakhstan)	TRADE/WP.8/SEM.27/ 2004/3
Chairman: Mr. C. Walker (United Kingdom)		
SUSTAINABLE ENERGY		
Executive Board of the Energy Security Forum	1st meeting 24 March 2004	ENERGY/2004/2
Co-Chairmen: Mr. R. McFarlane (United States) Mr. T. Bagirov (Russian Federation)		

Body and officers		Session	Symbol of report
Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Coal in Sustainable Development		7th session 7-8 November 2004	ENERGY/GE.1/2004/3
Chairman:	Mr. C. Alexandrescu (Romania)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr. G. Chapman (United Kingdom)		
	Ms. M. Ersoy (Turkey)		
	Mr. L. Janssens (Belgium)		
	Mr. S. Klimov (Russian Federation)		
	Mr. V. Shchadov (Russian Federation)		
	Mrs. M. Vrbova (Czech Republic)		
Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Supply of Fossil Fuels		1st session 10-11 November 2004	ENERGY/GE.3/2004/2
Chairman:	Mr. S. Heiberg (Norway)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. T. Ahlbrandt (United States)		
	Mr. M. Al-Tayyeb (OPEC)		
	Mr. Y. Podturkin (Russian Federation)		
	Mr. A. Subelj (Slovenia)		
Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane		1st session 6 December 2004	ENERGY/GE.4/2004/3
Chairman:	Mr. C. Talkington (United States)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr. Y. Bobrov (Ukraine)		
	Mr. R. Mader (Germany)		
	Mr. O. Pluzhnikov (Russian Federation)		
	Mr. G. Prezent (Kazakhstan)		
	Mr. J. Skiba (Poland)		
	Mr. S. Zolotykh (Russian Federation)		
Working Party on Gas		15th session 18-19 January 2005	ENERGY/WP.3/ 2005/2
Chairman:	Mr. F. De Lichtervelde (Belgium)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr. N. Coupaye (France)		
	Mr. I. Ponomarenko (Ukraine)		
	Mr. B. Rey (Poland)		
Ad Hoc Group of Experts on the Supply and Use of Gas		6th session 20 January 2005	ENERGY/WP.3/GE.5/ 2005/2
Chairman:	Mr. A. Zedelj (Croatia)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Mrs. M.T. Sao Pedro (Portugal)		
	Mr. A. Fronski (Poland)		
	Mr. A. Karasevich (Russian Federation)		
Steering Committee of the Energy Efficiency 21 Project		15th session 24-26 May 2004	ENERGY/WP.4/ 2004/4
Chairman:	Mr. B. Laponche (France)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr. T. Dahlsveen (Norway)		
	Mr. Z. Genchev (Bulgaria)		
	Mr. B. Reutov (Russian Federation)		
	Mr. T. Sacco (United States)		
	Mrs. M. Presutto (Italy)		

Body and officers		Session	Symbol of report
TIMBER			
Timber Committee, Joint Session with the FAO European Forestry Commission		62nd session 5-8 October 2004	ECE/TIM/2004/2
Co-Chairmen:	Mr. G.F. Borlea (Romania) Mr. A. Ozols (Latvia)		
Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Technology, Management and Training		25th session 9-12 September 2004 Groningen (Netherlands)	TIM/EFC/WP.1/ 2004/2
Chairman: **Vice-Chairmen:**	Mr. H. Höfle (Germany) Mr. D. McAree (Ireland) Mr. M. Büchel (Switzerland)		
Conference on Forest Fire Management and International Cooperation in Fire Emergencies in the Eastern Mediterranean, Balkans and Adjoining Regions of the Near East and Central Asia		30 March-3 April 2004 Antalya (Turkey)	TIM/EFC/WP.1/ SEM.55/2004/3
Co-Chairmen:	Mr. H. Hacioglu (Turkey) Mr. J. Goldammer (Germany)		
Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics		26th session 15-17 March 2004	TIM/EFC/WP.2/ 2004/9
Chairman: **Vice-Chairmen:**	Mr. M. Gecovic (Slovakia) Mr. H. Huckert (Germany) Mr. M. Aarne (Finland)		
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS			
Committee on Human Settlements		65th session 20-22 September 2004	ECE/HBP/134
Chairman: **Vice-Chairmen:**	Ms. E. Szolgayová (Slovakia) Ms. D. Andoni (Albania) Ms. D. Grabmüllerova (Czech Republic) Mr. H. van Eyk (Netherlands) Mr. M. Zawislak (Poland) Mr. B. Kjellson (Sweden) Mr. E. Hauri (Switzerland)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report

D. CONVENTIONS ADMINISTERED BY THE UNECE SECRETARIAT

Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution

Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution		22nd session 29 November- 3 December 2004	ECE/EB.AIR/83
Chairman:	Mr. H. Dovland (Norway)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Ms. P. Farnsworth (Canada)		
	Mr. L. Lindau (Sweden)		
	Mr. I. Mojik (Slovakia)		
	Mr. J. Schneider (Austria)		
	Mr. P. Széll (United Kingdom)		
	Mr. R. Ballaman (Switzerland)		
	Mr. H.-D. Gregor (Germany)		
Steering Body to the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP)		28th session 6-8 September 2004	EB.AIR/GE.1/2004/2
Chairman:	Mr. J. Schneider (Austria)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr. S. Doytchnov (Italy)		
	Mr. P. Grennfelt (Sweden)		
	Mr. J. Santroch (Czech Republic)		
	Ms. S. Vidic (Croatia)		
	Ms. M. Wichmann-Fiebig (European Community)		
	Mr. K. Wieringa (Netherlands)		
	Mr. J. Rea (United Kingdom)		
Working Group on Effects		23rd session 1-3 September 2004	EB.AIR/WG.1/2004/2
Chairman:	Mr. H.-D. Gregor (Germany)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr. B. Achermann (Switzerland)		
	Mr. T. Johannessen (Norway)		
	Mr. R. Farret (France)		
	Mr. W. Mill (Poland)		
	Mr. F. Conway (Canada)		
Working Group on Strategies and Review		36th session 13-16 September 2004	EB.AIR/WG.5/78
Chairman:	Mr. R. Ballaman (Switzerland)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Ms. K. Scavo (United States)		
	Ms. N. Karpova (Russian Federation)		
	Mr. J. Sliggers (Netherlands)		
	Mr. P. Jilek (Czech Republic)		

Body and officers		Session	Symbol of report
Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes			
Legal Board		1st meeting 28-29 June 2004 Verona (Italy)	MP.WAT/AC.4/2004/2
Chairman:	Mr. A. Tanzi (Italy)		
Vice-Chairman:	Ms. E.K. Jenkinson (United Kingdom)	2nd meeting 16-17 September 2004	MP.WAT/AC.4/2004/6
Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management		1st meeting 15 December 2004	MP.WAT/WG.1/ 2004/2
Chairman:	Ms. S. Vermont (Switzerland)		
Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment		5th meeting 30 September- 1 October 2004 St. Petersburg (Russian Federation)	MP.WAT/WG.2/ 2004/2
Chairman:	Mrs L. Kauppi (Finland)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mrs Z. Buzas (Hungary)		
Working Group on Water and Health		3rd meeting 11-12 March 2004 Budapest (Hungary)	MP.WAT/WG.4/2004/3 EUR/5047016/2004/3
Chairman:	Mr. M. Kadar (Hungary)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. T. Kistemann (Germany)	4th meeting 9-10 December 2004	MP.WAT/WG.4/2004/5 EUR/5047016/2004/5
Seminar on Flood Prevention, Protection and Mitigation		21-22 June 2004 Berlin (Germany)	MP.WAT/SEM.3/ 2004/3
Chairman:	Mr. O. Malek (Germany)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr. S. Todt (Hungary) Mr. Z. Kundzewicz (Poland)		
Seminar on the Role of Ecosystems as Water Suppliers		13-14 December 2004	MP.WAT/SEM.4/ 2004/3
Chairman:	Mr. P. Roch (Switzerland)		
Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context			
Meeting of Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context		3rd meeting 1-4 June 2004 Cavtat (Croatia)	ECE/MP.EIA/6
Chairman:	Mr. N. Mikulic (Croatia)		

Body and officers		Session	Symbol of report

Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents

Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents		3rd meeting 27-30 October 2004 Budapest (Hungary)	ECE/CP.TEIA/12
Chairman:	Mr. R. Grosset (Poland)		
Vice-Chairmen:	Mr. L. Katai-Urban (Hungary) Mr. S. Mokrousov (Russian Federation)		

Meeting of Parties to the Convention on access to information, public participation in decision-making and access to justice in environmental matters

Working Group on Genetically Modified Organisms		3rd meeting 24-26 March 2004	MP.PP/AC.2/ 2004/2
Chairman:	Mr. H. Gaugitsch (Austria)		
Vice-Chairman:	Ms. N. Preradovic (Croatia)	4th meeting 18-20 October 2004	MP.PP/AC.2/ 2004/4
Working Group of the Parties to the Convention		2nd meeting 3-4 May 2004	MP.PP/WG.1/2004/2
Chairman:	Mr. M. Pallemaerts (Belgium)		
		3rd meeting 1-3 November 2004	MP.PP/WG.1/2004/9
		4th meeting 1-4 February 2005	MP.PP/WG.1/2005/2
Compliance Committee		4th meeting 13-14 May 2004	MP.PP/C.1/2004/4
Chairman:	Mr. V. Koester (Denmark)		
Vice-Chairman:	Ms. S. Kravchenko (Ukraine)	5th meeting 23-24 September 2004	MP.PP/C.1/2004/6
		6th meeting 15-17 December 2004	MP.PP/C.1/2004/8
		7th meeting 14-15 February 2005	MP.PP/C.1/2005/2

ANNEX II

PUBLICATIONS AND DOCUMENTS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSION

A. LIST OF MAJOR ECE STUDIES AND PUBLICATIONS, 2004/2005

The language versions issued are indicated by the following abbreviations: E, English; F, French; R, Russian; E/F, bilingual (English/French); E/F/R, trilingual (English/French/Russian).

GENERAL

Annual Report of the ECE to ECOSOC, 7 March 2003-27 February 2004 Supplement No. 17 (E/2004/37-E/ECE/1416)	E F R
Economic Survey of Europe, 2004, N°1 (Sales N° 04.II.E.7)	E F R
Economic Survey of Europe, 2004, N°2 (Sales N° 04.II.E.21)	E F R
Economic Survey of Europe, 2005, N°1 (Sales N° 05.II.E.7)	E F R

Occasional Papers

N° 3: The Process of European Integration and the Future of Europe, Gunnar Myrdal Lecture by Joseph E. Stiglitz (Sales N° 05.II.E.5)	E
N° 4: Domestic Savings and the Driving Forces of Investment in the ECE Emerging Market Economies (Sales N° 05.II.E.12)	E

Population

Socio-Economic Status and Living Arrangements of Older Persons in Lithuania (Sales N° 04.II.E.5)	E
The New Demographic Regime: Population Challenges and Policy Responses (Sales N° 05.II.E.10)	E

ENVIRONMENT

Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (ECE/MP.PP/6)(Sales N° 05.II.E.11)	E/F/R
Protocol on Civil Liability and Compensation for Damage Caused by the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents on Transboundary Waters (ECE/MP.WAT/11)	E/F/R
Handbook for the 1979 Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution and its Protocols (ECE/EB.AIR/85) (Sales N° E.04.II.E.9)	E
Clearing the Air – 25 Years of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (ECE/EB.AIR/84) (Sales N° E.04.II.E.20)	E

Strategies and Policies for Air Pollution Abatement (ECE/EB.AIR/81) (Sales N° E.03.11.E.49)	E F R
The Aarhus Convention, an Implementation Guide (ECE/CEP/72)	E F R
Environmental Monitoring and Assessment – Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia Cd-Rom (Sales N° GV.04.0.3)	E R
Environmental Performance Reviews Series	
N° 19 – Azerbaijan (ECE/CEP/122) (Sales N° 04.II.E.2)	E
N° 20 – Bosnia and Herzegovina (ECE/CEP/125) (Sales N° 05.II.E.1)	E

TRANSPORT

European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN 2005) (2 vols.) (ECE/TRANS/182) (Sales N° 04.VIII.2)	E F R
European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR 2005) (2 vols.) (ECE/TRANS/175) (Sales No. 04.VIII.1)	E F R
Monitoring, Interception and Managing Radioactively Contaminated Scrap Metal (ECE/TRANS/NONE/2004/3)	E F R
Statistics of Road Traffic Accidents in Europe and North America 2003, Vol. XLVIII (Sales N° 04.II.E.1)	E/F/R
Annual Bulletin of Transport Statistics for Europe and North America, 2004, Vol. LII (Sales N° 04.II.E.10)	E/F/R

STATISTICS

Trends in Europe and North America 2005 (Sales N° 05.II.E.14)	E
World Robotics 2004 (Sales N° GV.E.04.0.20)	E
Communicating with the Media: A Guide for Statistical Organizations (ECE/STAT/NONE/2004/2)	E
Statistical Journal of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Vol.21, No.1-4	E
Statistical Standards and Studies No. 55: Non-Observed Economy in National Accounts, Survey of National Practices (Sales N° 03.II.E.56)	E

TRADE, INDUSTRY AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

Sharing the Gains of Globalization in the New Security Environment: The Challenges to Trade Facilitation (ECE/TRADE/330) (Sales N° 04.II.E.3)	E
Strategic Action Plan for Trade Development 2003-2005 (ECE/TRADE/320)	E

Industrial Restructuring in European Transition Economies: Regulatory Framework and the Role of Innovation (ECE/TRADE/335) (Sales N° 03.II.E.53) E F R

Access to Financing and ICT for Women Entrepreneurs in the UNECE Region (ECE/TRADE/336) (Sales N° 04.II.E.11) E R

Discussion Papers on Sustainable Forest Management,
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N° 2: Forest Products Statistics, 1998-2002 (ECE/TIM/BULL/2003/2)	E/F
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N° 6: Forest Products Markets: Prospects for 2004 (ECE/TIM/BULL/2003/6)	E/F

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N° 3: Forest Products Annual Market Review, 2003-2004 (ECE/TIM/BULL/2004/3)	E F R
Timber and Forest Information Series: Timber Committee Yearbook 2004 (ECE/TIM/INF/11)	E F R
International Forest Fire News N° 29, July-December 2003 (ECE/TIM/IFFN/29)	E

HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

Country Profiles on the Housing Sector: Armenia (ECE/HBP/132) (Sales N° 04.II.E.8)	E
Country Profiles on the Housing Sector: Russian Federation (ECE/HBP/131) (Sales N° 05.II.E.2)	E
Guidelines on Real Property Units and Identifiers (ECE/HBP/135)	E

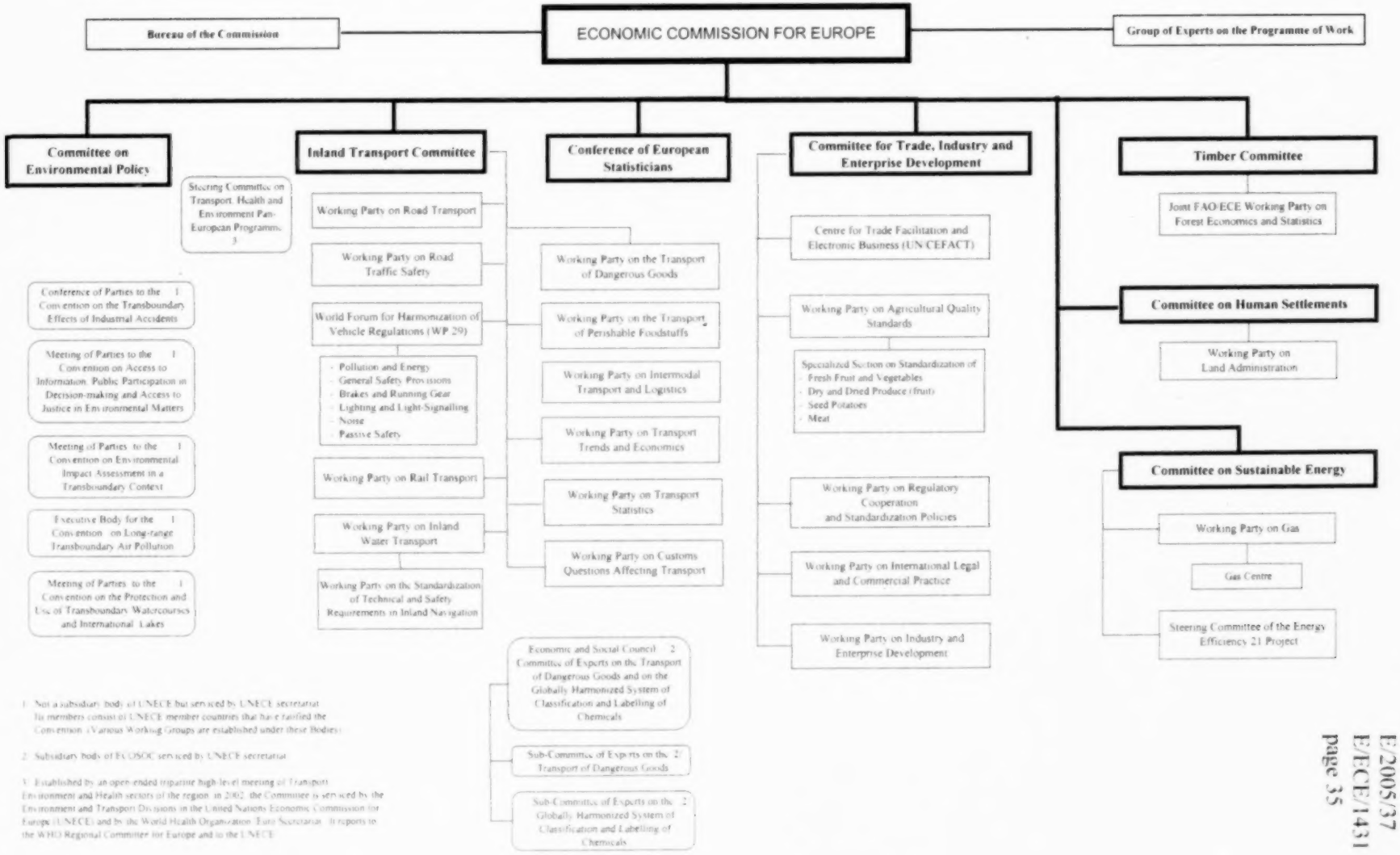
B. LIST OF DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED TO THE COMMISSION AT ITS SIXTIETH SESSION

Provisional agenda	E/ECE/1419 and Corr.1
Financing for development in the UNECE region: the issues facing South-east Europe and the CIS	E/ECE/1420
Sustainable development in the UNECE region	E/ECE/1421
Towards an E-strategy for the UNECE	E/ECE/1422
Programme of work planning and evaluation processes	E/ECE/1423 and Add.1
Achieving the internationally agreed goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, as well as implementing the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits	E/ECE/1424
Major policy issues of the UNECE and their impact on the UNECE programme of work	E/ECE/1425
The work of the UNECE – achievements and constraints	E/ECE/1426
UNECE technical cooperation activities in 2004: an overview	E/ECE/1427 and Add.1
Report of the Bureau	E/ECE/1428
Report of the Group of Experts on the Programme of Work	E/ECE/1429
Conference Room Paper 1: Economic developments in the UNECE region: main conclusions of the first issue of the Economic Survey of Europe, 2005	
Conference Room Paper 2: The UNECE's cooperation with OSCE in the economic and environmental dimensions of security	
Conference Room Paper 3: Recommendations of the Group of Experts on the Programme of Work (GEPW) on the programme planning processes	

C. REPORTS OF THE PRINCIPAL SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF THE COMMISSION

Committee on Environmental Policy	ECE/CEP/124
Inland Transport Committee	ECE/TRANS/162
Conference of European Statisticians	ECE/CES/66
Committee on Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development	ECE/TRADE/340
Committee on Sustainable Energy	ECE/ENERGY/53
Timber Committee	ECE/TIM/2004/2
Committee on Human Settlements	ECE/HBP/134

ANNEX III
ORGANIGRAM OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE


Bureau of the Commission
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE
Group of Experts on the Programme of Work
Committee on Environmental Policy
Steering Committee on Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme 3
Conference of Parties to the 1 Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents
Meeting of Parties to the 1 Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters
Meeting of Parties to the 1 Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context
Executive Body for the 1 Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution
Meeting of Parties to the 1 Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes
Inland Transport Committee
Working Party on Road Transport
Working Party on Road Traffic Safety
World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29)
- Pollution and Energy
- General Safety Provisions
- Brakes and Running Gear
- Lighting and Light-Signalling
- Noise
- Passive Safety
Working Party on Rail Transport
Working Party on Inland Water Transport
Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation
Conference of European Statisticians
Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods
Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs
Working Party on Intermodal Transport and Logistics
Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics
Working Party on Transport Statistics
Working Party on Customs Questions Affecting Transport
Economic and Social Council 2 Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals
Sub-Committee of Experts on the 2 Transport of Dangerous Goods
Sub-Committee of Experts on the 2 Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals
Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development
Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT)
Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards
Specialized Section on Standardization of
- Fresh Fruit and Vegetables
- Dry and Dried Produce (fruit)
- Seed Potatoes
- Meat
Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies
Working Party on International Legal and Commercial Practice
Working Party on Industry and Enterprise Development
Timber Committee
Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics
Committee on Human Settlements
Working Party on Land Administration
Committee on Sustainable Energy
Working Party on Gas
Gas Centre
Steering Committee of the Energy Efficiency 21 Project

1 Not a subsidiary body of UNECE but serviced by UNECE secretariat. Its members consist of UNECE member countries that have ratified the Convention. (Various Working Groups are established under these Bodies).

2 Subsidiary body of ECOSOC serviced by UNECE secretariat.

3 Established by an open-ended tripartite high-level meeting of Transport, Environment and Health sectors of the region in 2002, the Committee is serviced by the Environment and Transport Divisions in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and by the World Health Organization Euro Secretariat. It reports to the WHO Regional Committee for Europe and to the UNECE.

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